



ازالدين عند الله اسلام

لا اله الا الله محمد رسول الله

AHMADIYYA GAZETTE

FEBRUARY 1977

MUSLEH MAUD DAY

The Musleh Maud (The Promised Son) Day falls on Feb. 20, 1977 (Sunday). It is observed in the Ahmadiyya Jamaats in commemoration of the revealed prophecy announced by the Promised Messiah through a special leaflet issued on Feb. 20, 1886. Every Ahmadi, American converts to Islam in particular, are a witness to its fulfillment and its befitting celebration which increases us in faith in the living God.

All the Jamaats in America may refresh their knowledge about this remarkable prophecy, suitably described by our Missionary Incharge, as printed below. The Great Lakes and Midwest Region Jamaats will celebrate the occasion collectively at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with the regional Missionary as their main speaker. Others will meet locally or jointly as and where it be deemed suitable. — Ed.

PROMISED SON OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH:

20th February is a memorable day in the history of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam. On this day we celebrate the fulfillment of the grand prophecy about the birth of an illustrious son within a specified period, as announced by Hazrat Ahmad the Holy Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam. The prophecy as detailed below was remarkably fulfilled in the person of Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad who rose to be the second successor of Hazrat Ahmad (may Allah be pleased with him).

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) while prophesying about the advent of the Promised Messiah and Mahdi had referred to the same son in his significant remarks, "He would marry and have children." He did marry and had a son, worthy of him, as predicted.

The great Muslim Saint of Iran, Shah Ne'matullah Wali had also versified the same theme under inspiration when he proclaimed: "Read I the name of the Promised one and behold now, but Ahmad, Ahmad alone. And lo, behold as heir, none but his son alone. With all that, true heir, very well known."

Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad founded the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam under the Divine Command. It was in the late 19th century, to regenerate and motivate the spiritual force of Islam, when all anti-Islamic elements were out, united and deter-

mined to oust the true great religion. The Promised Messiah earnestly prayed for days, that Allah out of His mercy and grace may provide ways and means by which Islam may be saved from the onslaughts of its enemies, and the truth be established in the world through signs and reason.

"I give thee a sign of mercy, according to thy demand. I heard thy supplication and out of mercy accepted thy prayers. I blessed for thee the journey (the journey to Hoshiarpur and Ludhaiana). Thus the sign of power and mercy and of relationship is given thee, the sign of favor of gift is granted unto thee and thou getteth the key to victory and success. O, you be saved from the clutches of death; and those buried in the graves, should come out; so that the nobility of the Faith of Islam and the high rank of the Book of Allah should be revealed to men, so that the truth should arrive with all its blessings and vanity should vanish with all its ill-omens, and so that men should know that I am the powerful, do as I will, and so that they should be sure that I am with thee; and so that those who do not believe in existence of God and view the Faith of God and His Book and His noble Messenger Muhammad the chosen one (peace be on him) with an eye of denial and renunciation should get a clear sign and the course of sinners become obvious."

"So tidings unto thee that a handsome and pious son shall be given thee. A righteous son will thou get, that son shall be of thy own origin thine own offspring in thine own race....With him is grace which sets in along with him. He would possess grandeur, dignity and wealth. He shall come to the world and will through his messianic spirit and by his blessings of the spirit of truth, clean many of the diseases. He is the Word of God, as the mercy and the jealousy of God has sent him from the Word of Glory. He would be highly sagacious and intelligent and of a clement heart. He would be saturated with learning both secular and spiritual and will make for thee...Monday the blessed Monday. Son, loved closed to thy heart, honored and high-starred; the manifestor of the First and the Last; the manifestor of the Truth and the High; as if God has descended from the heavens, whose advent will be very blessed and the means of the manifestation of Divine Majesty. Light, there comes the Light, whom God annointed with the perfume of His pleasure. We will put in him our Spirit and the shade of God will be over his head. He shall grow up rapidly and would cause the deliverance of captives and will become renowned to the end of the earth; and nations shall be blessed through him. Then shall he be raised to his respective spiritual abode in the heaven and the decree of God (as it were already) fulfilled."

This promised son was born on January 12, 1889. Within three years of the publication of the great prophecy. He was named Mahmud as well as Bashir and Faz-i-Omar.

He succeeded the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) as his second successor in March 1914 when he was only 25 years old thus fulfilling the prophecy contained in the words Fazl-i-Omar.

A careful perusal of the various attributes ascribed to him in the prophecy, his special features and achievements that mark his 52 years of unique service to the cause of Islam, minutely correspond to the revealed requirements.

Space does not permit me to go into details of his glorious achievements. Suffice it to say here that he was instrumental in establishing a network of missionary centers across the globe for the propagation of true Islamic principles; caused translation of the Holy Quran into dozens of vernacular languages, was himself admittedly a unique scholar of Islam with a marvellous access into the beauties and excellences of the Holy scripture. His fame as a champion of Islam spread far and wide and his 'renown reached the end of the earth', pointing to the fulfillment of the conditions of the prophecy. (M.S. Shahid, Missionary Incharge)

IMPRESSIONS OF VISITORS TO JALSA SALANA

(Below we give impressions of some of the members of American delegation to Jalsa Salana held at Rabwah and Qadian in December 1976. — Ed.)

LESSONS RECEIVED FROM THIS YEAR'S VISIT: (Muzaffar Ahmad, Amir of delegation)

Having heard the speeches of Jalsa Salana, the discourses given by our beloved Khalifa (may Allah grant him long life) and the divines of our movement, I asked myself, 'how did they achieve this light?' Through prayer and love of God, I felt.

It came to me that prayer is the first step toward cultivating a relationship with Allah, the Most High, but most of us take it for granted and consider it a mere formality. Prayer when done in the tradition of the Holy Prophet (SAWS) brings about a love and fear of God. This is evident in Rabwah and Qadian by the great number of persons who stand for Thajjud prayer, automatically weeping and sobbing during their prayers. Contrast to this in America, very few of us cry during our prayers. I ask myself, 'are we of those who pray to be seen of men or are we those who pray and are not attentive in their prayers?' Brothers and sisters, you also do the same, and if you find that you are, just as I found I was, you pray in all your prayers that Allah may make you love prayer. For, if we do not have a sincere love for prayer, how can we cultivate a connection with Allah? We need the love of prayer, and the fervent petition to Allah to let us worship Him solely for His sake; not for fear of hell nor the desire of obtaining paradise.

Let me give you an example to illustrate how prayers said in sincerity are heard, and how Allah hears the prayers of His dear ones. One of our delegates, Sis. Zakkiyya Hafeez had been given a 2 days transient visa which expired on the last day of Jalsa Salana, which fact we had not discovered earlier. We were informed that the police had ordered; that, she must leave Rabwah at once. When this news reached us, we were naturally very much upset. While we were preparing to leave for Lahore, Mr. Shafeek Kasar, an official in Tabshir, had chance to convey to Huzur what had transpired. Our beloved Khalifa (may Allah grant him long life) relayed to us, that he would pray for us and that we need not worry. When we reached Lahore, we went to the American Consulate, but found them helpless. We learnt that we might have to go to Karachi some 800 miles or Rawlipindi which is equally as far, or cross over into India and then return, a lot of expense and suspense. Before dismissing us, however, the Consulate contacted the District Police Office for help, and the said officer directed us to come to him right away. We explained to him our problem, he gave the passport to a subordinate, who made the necessary changes. This process took less than half an hour. The help came from unexpected quarters; had it not been for Huzur's prayers, this could not have happened. If I had any doubt about the power of prayer, this incident removed it. Another thing which I realized was that only through the love of God that our brothers and sisters in Rabwah and Qadian were making proverbial sacrifices. One example of this, we were instructed to make every effort to attend Jalsa Salana by our beloved Caliph. Nearly 130,000 persons to my estimation responded to his call, but it is regrettable that out of this number only 15 attended from America, even 25 less than last year. We cannot give the excuse that to travel in Pakistan is less expensive and the people don't suffer hardships. Our economical condition is much better than theirs, yet these people with lesser means responded at once to our Khalif's request while we gave first one excuse and then another. I ask you, is this a sign of the love of God? When you see people come in the thousands to answer their Khalif's call and don't mind the hardships, but accept them gladly, solely for the love of God, don't you feel lack in the love of God? Mirza Tahir Ahmad in his speech said something that would explain my point. In the time of Hazrat Muhammad Mustafa (SAWS) whenever he called for persons to come forth to fight in the cause of Allah, the Most High, there was always a body of people who hid behind their wives and children and said that if they responded—their homes remain unprotected or make some other foolish

excuse. This seems to fit our case. One cannot help praising the sacrifices our Pakistani brothers were making and I referred to it in my short speech at the Jalsa.

We were told by one of the companions of Hazrat Masih Maud (ASWS), that Masih Maud told them the purpose for him being sent was to teach men to love God. Each of us should reflect upon our relationship with Allah and ask ourselves the following questions: 1) How much will we sacrifice in the cause of God? 2) How often do we make congregational prayers? 3) How much do we try to spread the love of God? 4) How much do we act upon the principles of our religion?

I thank Allah the Most High, for allowing me to have met, conversed, and to serve in some small way the Khalif, Allah's selected one. My only regret is that I am nothing and have not been able to give Him a fraction of the blessings He has bestowed upon me by allowing me to come into His company. May Allah grant our beloved Khalif, Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, long life. I am so envious of our Divines who have the blessings of the love of God and are in the services of our beloved Huzur, my one prayer is that I might have children that will one day serve this blessed movement as Shahibzadas Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Mirza Wasim Ahmad and others with the epitmy of dedication to Allah and His Khalif and the servitude in which moulanas Abdul Malik Khan, Abul Ata, Qazi Muhammad Nazeer, and scholars such as Syed Mir Mahmud and many dear friends I have met during my visits to Rabwah and Qadian.

RABWAH AND QADIAN REVISITED: (Aeysha Shaheed, President Dayton Lajna - Leader Women's Section)

My second visit to Qadian and Rabwah is more indelible than the first, in that I am more cognizant of the basic purposes for the attainment of which our Movement is founded. Jalsa Salana affords us an opportunity to cleanse ourselves morally, physically, socially and spiritually. While at Rabwah the Americans along with other delegations received the highest possible honour. The honour of addressing the mammoth gathering of about 50,000 ladies on the second day of Jalsa, as leader of American women delegation, is flattering, a rare chance in one's life. The Central Lajna generously entertained us to welcome party and there and everywhere we were, as well as other delegates, considered as something "SPECIAL" and showered with honour, we hardly deserved. We were given the opportunity to speak before the Girl's College, "Jamia Nusrat" along with Sister Salma Habib at a luncheon. And of course nothing can match the privilege we had had of seeing our Caliph twice, besides hearing him speak in public.

At Qadian, I was bestowed the honour of presiding at a full-fledged session of the international gathering. To respond to the welcome address which was graciously presented on behalf of Qadian Lajna President, Hazrat Begum Wasim Ahmad, a member of the Promised Messiah's family.

This does not exhaust the list; during our sojourn in Lahore on the way back to America, the Lahore Lajna extended to the delegation their transitional hospitality, arranged a reception in our honour, where we were presented as address of welcome, each one of us was offered gifts which we shall cherish most lovingly in our memories. Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan, revered Chandhri Sahib, gave us most useful instructions about observing the do's and don'ts of the Holy Quran.

Next to Huzur, the audience with Begum Sahiba and Chhoti Apa, was our privilege and I have no words to express the pleasure we received through contact with these distinguished members of the Promised Messiah's family. The love and care we received from our international President and her co-workers is too deep for words and the impression they had made is as I said in the beginning indeed indelible.

May Allah out of His infinite grace and mercy prolong the lives of those of the blessed families, and may we exhibit the same spirit and grow stronger in faith and practice Islam in the manner they do! Amin.

FAITH INVIGORATED: (Salma Habib, Philadelphia, Pa.)

On my arrival in Rabwah, I was welcomed by the sisters with such love, respect, admiration and understanding, that I was completely captivated by this manifest exhibit of sisterhood. This performance of gratitude and enthusiasm was fluent during my entire stay in Rabwah. All praise is due to Allah and may He shower his choicest blessings on all the people who helped to make my stay in Rabwah so rewarding.

The interpreters worked faithfully and willingly to make sure that I understood the essence of each speech at Jalsa. The eloquence of the speeches stimulated and aroused a spiritual fire that filled me with the love of Allah. There was such a joy in meeting sisters from other parts of Allah's world, being embraced with the love of Islam, talking and discussing the peace one finds in accepting Islam and this made me more aware of the blessing of being a part of that great prophecy of the Promised Messiah's (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

I was accepted in Qadian with such overwhelming and gratifying love that I felt so at peace with myself and the world around me in this small tranquil quaint town.

My first opportunity to pray in Bait-ul-dua came at Maghrib. As I knelt in sajida, I felt a sweet serenity that I had not experienced in prayer before. I became so engrossed and involved in my supplications to Allah, that I did not wish to cease praying. It was there in that small room that I felt a deep inclination of eagerness to continue prayer forever. I lost count of my rakats, I don't know how many I made, suddenly, the regard for others waiting patiently to pray in that same room became apparent.

All of my experiences on this trip have helped to strengthen my faith in Islam. I have returned to the states, with a deeper desire to serve my Creator. All praise is due to Allah. Because of this journey, my faith in Islam has been invigorated.

WITNESSED THE TRUE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE: (Atiyyatus Sabur, Troy, Ohio)

By the grace of Allah, I was able to attend the 84th Jalsa Salana in Rabwah and Qadian. It was truly a blessing to spend as much time in Rabwah as we did. I shall try and share with you a few of my experiences.

During Jalsa, the speeches were most inspiring. Even with all the buzzing around you, the feeling of peace and sincerity was predominant. We listened intently; following the speaker's every gesture and mood. Through this intense concentration, one was able to grasp the meaning of their text. Our interpreters were very helpful. Some of the interpreters wrote the speeches out for us; others translated the speeches while we listened. All the speakers were dynamic. However, a few speeches were delivered in English for our sake.

During our 13 days in Rabwah, I learned and observed many of the sunnahs and hadiths. I witnessed the true spirit of sacrifice in many of the Ahmadies, both male and female. Whatever time, money or services could be spent in the way of Allah our brothers and sisters gave willingly. Their whole livelihood is spent in the way of Allah. They endure hardships for the blessings of Allah and to be strengthened in faith. To do the service of Allah is reward enough. Thus, they strive to lay up treasures in the hereafter and know that whatever they should need that it will come from Allah when it is needed.

After having seen and heard Huzur, I feel that if we put Huzur's directives above our own goals, we win the pleasure of Allah. For it can only please Allah, if we can manage to carry out our Khalifa's directives. Understand that the Khalifa's directives are Allah's, the injunctions of the Holy Quran, the sunnahs and hadiths of the Holy Prophet (SAWS) and the enjoining of the Promised Messiah (may Allah be pleased with him).

There were many days I spent studying Islamic materials and observing and learning. I was very much impressed with Rabwah and Qadian. I found the Ahmadies there to practice Islam with utmost devotion and love for Allah.

One phrase from the booklet "So Said the Promised Messiah" is that paradise would be brought closer to the believers, I find this to be true of Rabwah. Another observation brought about the importance to learn Urdu. It means a lot to our sisters who are learning English to communicate with us, for us to learn to communicate with them by learning Urdu. I learned a few phrases and they were most delighted to teach me and hear me. It made them feel comfortable knowing that I sounded as odd as they felt when speaking English. So the feelings were mutually felt in learning and speaking each others language.

One point on which I feel very strongly about and that developed after learning first hand to leave all vain, selfish desires and faults at home. If we must be selfish, let that selfishness be to attain nearness to Allah, to seek refuge with Allah during Jalsa, love, understanding of others and of self, and a sense of fairness and objectivity. When we guard our faults and understand what it is we are looking for, the purpose of Jalsa is fulfilled. Alhamdoillah!

IRREPARABLE LOSS

The current Gazette comes out replete with sorrow and grief felt at the sad demise of some highly revered and distinguished members of the Ahmadiyya community. No contemporary stalwart has served the community more prominently and successfully than Malik Ghulam Farid MA; translator and commentator of the Holy Quran and Maulana Abdur Rahman Jatt, Amir and Nazir-e-Ala of Qadian, both of whom passed away in January leaving a void in the ranks of the community which may not easily be filled. Both of them, stand out as unique and unparalleled in the contemporary history of the Movement.

Gifted with perfect command over the English language, one of our most well-read scholar, Malik Ghulam Farid wielded his pen for well over half a century in the service of Islam and gave to the world an invaluable treasure in the form of his five volume commentary of the Holy Quran. This achievement of his, alone, a part from others too numerous to mention here, has won him an immortal name in Ahmadiyyat and Islam.

Incomparably remarkable in its own sphere is the selfless and devoted service of Maulvi Abdur Rahman rendered to the Ahmadiyya community. As Amir, he inspired life and spirit into the body of the 313 Darwishes who stayed behind at Qadian, at the partition of the sub-continent in 1947. All that the Ahmadiyya community in Qadian and Bharat has been spared to achieve since then, is a credit to the dynamic leadership of Hazrat Maulvi Abdur Rahman.

The community has also recently sustained a great loss in the death of Maulvi Ahmad Khan, a devout Nazir, local Tabligh, Rabwah.

Syed Sami Ullah Shah, a renowned educationist (father of Syed Jawad Ali Shah, Missionary) has also passed away. May Allah exalt the departed souls!

AHMADIYYA CENTENARY JUBILEE FUND

The grand scheme launched by Hazrat Khalifatul Maseh III for the propagation of Islam under the above title requires each one of us who pledged any amount to pay within a period of 15 years, to make sure that he has actually paid 3/15 of the promised amount by the end of February. Pledgees stand committed to keep their promise to Allah and His Caliph.

MARRIAGES

1) Br. Abdus Shafi of Dayton was married to Sis. Amatul Mueed of Milwaukee on January 14th, dower of \$1200.00

2) Br. Shahid Saleem also of Dayton to Sis. Shahida (who accepted Ahmadiyyat the same day on January 15th). Several non-Ahmadi relatives of Sis. Shahida from

Cincinnati and Columbus joined the Nikah celebrations. Dower money \$500.

3) Mr. Madud Ahmad (Washington) was married to Sister Nasira Ahmad (daughter of our National Amir) at Rabwah, dower Rs 15 thousand.

4) Br. Muhammad Isa Qadafi of Rahway, N.J. was married to Sister Amatus Shakor (daughter of Maulvi Naseerud Din Ahmad) at Rabwah and the couple has since returned to America.

5) Br. Raqib Wali of Boston whose Nikah was announced earlier at Qadian has now brought his wife home. We offer heartiest congratulations to the couples and their parents and wish them happy and prosperous married lives.

AMIRS MEETING

The next meeting of Amirs will be held at Dayton, Ohio, 637 Randolph Street on Sunday, March 6, 1977 at 9:00 A.M. Agenda has been mailed to persons concerned.

KHUDDAM-UL AHMADIYYA MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING

The midwest region of Khuddam-ul Ahmadiyya held its first regional meeting of 1977 on January 22 at the Fazl-i-Omar Mosque, Dayton, Ohio, the home of Branch 4B. Present were members of the Dayton branch, the St. Louis branch and visiting from the Great Lakes region were members of the Detroit Jamaat. Presiding over the meeting was the Naib Deputy Qaid, Al-Haj Dhul Waqar Yaqub of Troy, Ohio and the Regional Qaid, Abdul Kabir Haqq. The Khuddam met in two sessions, the first was the officers session and the second was the general session in which all Khuddam was in attendance.

On the agenda was the planning of the regional Atfal program, the regional rally planned for March and the discussion of the National Ijtema to be held in May 1977 at Dr. Majid Ali's farm in Blairstown, N.J.

The meeting proved to be a source of inspiration and spiritual rejuvenation for all. Imam Ibrahim, the missionary incharge of the midwest capped the meeting with a dissertation on Khilafat after which he led the Khuddam in their pledge. (Umar Qadafi, Zaim 4B, Deputy Regional Qaid)

DECEMBER ACTIVITY REPORT - D.C. LAJNA IMAILLAH

(The report, though belated, will be read with interest, and may inspire other Lajna to adopt the new line of propagation so successfully tried by Washington, DC Lajna. — Ed.)

Seventy women attended a "Muslim Women's Unity Hour" at the DC Fazl Mosque on Saturday, December 18th. As the title implies, the theme of the affair involved meeting and establishing friendly relations among Muslim women. Representatives from "The World Community of Islam in the West" (formerly known as the Nation of Islam), as well as Sunni sisters from other DC Muslim groups attended.

World Community guests were also speakers on the program and talked on such topics as "Spiritual and Moral Aspects of Islam", "Marriage in Islam", "Food for Health", and "Muslim Women in Western Society".

Two Ahmadi sisters attended from New York, three from Baltimore, two from York, Pa. and two from Philadelphia. Sis. Jameela Hamid from Philadelphia opened both sessions with Quranic recitations and was in fantastic voice. Zainab Badru Nisa from York, spoke on "Educating the Muslim Child". Her speech was expertly researched, tracing the history of education from the Greeks to the modern age. It argued why the Islamic approach to learning, a blending of the word of God with His works, is superior to all other methods of instruction.

Aisha Badru Nisa, also from York, gave an enlightening talk on the "Nature of the Soul and Life After Death", as it is presented in the Quran. Adiba Abbas, DC Lajna President, spoke on Islam and peace, comparing Islam's approach to establishing peace between the nations to that of the United Nations.

Food for the affair was prepared and served by a professional caterer. To our knowledge this was the first time Ahmadi sisters have attempted a meeting with non-

Ahmadi Muslim women, who also shared the speaker's platform. The atmosphere of love and comraderie experienced at the meeting was ample proof that this type of meeting was beneficial to the cause of Islam. Guests were very lavish in their praise of the meeting's success, and their appreciation for having been invited.

DC Lajna is indebted to a new Ahmadi sister, Latifa Shafkut, who accepted Ahmadiyya in August 1976, after hearing the Khalifa deliver a Khutba here. It was Sister Shafkut who conceived of the "Muslim Women's Unity Hour", idea, and made the initial moves toward executing it. May Allah grant her His choicest blessings, and also all the sisters who worked so hard to make the program a success.

Special bouquets are also due to Imam M. S. Shahid, chief missionary, without whose counsel, support and good-will, the meeting could not have taken place.
(Nyceema Ameen)

SOME IMPORTANT JOURNALS

(Following are some of our extremely useful monthly journals published in London, or at international headquarters, which should be prescribed to by our American residents and Pakistani brothers and sisters, through the Missionary Incharge. They project the Ahmadiyya point of view in an effective and scholarly manner and merit our patronage: — Ed.)

1) Muslim Herald - London	\$ 10.00	Yearly
2) Tahrik-i-Jadid - Rabwah	5.00	"
3) Review of Religions - Rabwah	10.00	"
4) Misbah (Urdu) for Lajna - Rabwah	10.00	"

Pakistani sisters are particularly requested to subscribe to Misbah their international organ.

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